

PRESIDENT- LANCE DUNBAR-AL7BK-337-6297 CLUB PHONE: 345-0719

NOVEMBER

1986

NOV 7 . . GENERAL MEETING 7 PM SPENARD REC CENTER 2020 W. 48TH ST

NOV 12 .BOARD MEETING 7 PM HOPE COTTAGE MEETING RM BERING ST BETWEEN NORTHERN LIGHTS & BENSON

NOV 29 . PARKA TECH MEETING/ELECTION TBA

DEC 5 CHRISTMAS PARTY 6 PM SPENARD REC CENTER 2020 W. 48TH ST

DEC 10 .BOARD MEETING 7 PM HOPE COTTAGE MEETING RM BERING ST BETWEEN NORTHERN LIGHTS & BENSON

DEC 27 . PARKA SOCIAL MEETING TBA

VEC NEWS - NEW HAMS AND UPGRADES



ANCHORAGE

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submitted by Roger Hansen, KL7HFQ, VEC Director)

EDITOR: HARVEY E. ROOKUS - NL7DK 333-4693 3310 CHECKMATE DRIVE ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508 THE PREZ SEZ....

The Flea Market is finally over for another year, and we managed to pull it off and even make a few bucks in the process (about \$3,000). Thanks to Lil Marvin, NL7DL, and her merry band for making it work again. All who attended had an enjoyable time, in spite of the cramped space, which got smaller and smaller as the big weekend drew near. Thanks also to ARRL Division Director Mary Lewis, W7QGP, who managed to take time from her busy schedule to spend the weekend with us. The banquet on Saturday evening was another resounding success, with great chow and good music from our own Tim Pettis, KL7WE, on his "squeeze box."

Just as we were getting settled down and back into a normal routine, along came "Mean ol' Mister Weather" with high winds and extremely heavy rainfall which turned Southcentral Alaska topsy-turvy, "knowwhatimean, Vern." High winds damaged homes and toppled all but the bottom 60 feet of Dell Wolfington's (KL7EKB) 190 foot tower right onto his roof and into the bedroom. As a result, Dell and the 16/76 repeater are off the air. Dell vowed to rebuild. The storm dumped more moisture on surrounding mountains than the streams and creeks could handle, with the result being severe flooding in the Seward and Willow-Talkeetna areas. The Ham community was ready, mobilizing almost immediately and providing needed communications and backup for all stricken areas. Everyone involved did a Helluva job, even the novices in Seward who worked feverishly to get a station on the air and succeeded. Even though damage estimates exceed \$20 million, there was no loss of life, for which the disaster services and the volumeers can be thankful and proud. Well done to all who helped.

It's time once again to start thinking about our winter activities. The Christmas party is planned for the first Friday in December at the Spenard Rec Center and should be a good one. Fur Rondy will be on us before we know it, followed almost immediately by the Iditarod. Volunteer, if you can, to help out with these activities. They are what helps to keep the ham community together, and they provide invaluable practice in preparation for the next emergency.

That's all for this month. Hope you all have a safe and warm winter and see you at the meetings.

73's,

Lance AL7BK

PROPOSED CHANGE TO BYLAWS AND RULES OF PROCEDURE Annual Membership Period

At the October general meeting, it was moved and seconded that the current method of calculating annual memberships be changed to allow memberships to run for one full year from the month during which the membership becomes effective. Currently, under the current bylaws, memberships started in the middle of the calendar year must be prorated on a quarterly basis. This method was incorporated before the advent of computer-generated membership accounting to make it easier on the membership chairperson. However, it has been found that most mail-in memberships have been for the full year membership, rather than prorated. This could create quite a few headaches for the membership chairman and the treasurer, as quite a few refund checks for the overpayment would have to be issued.

The proposed change would allow the membership list to be coded with an expiration date one year from the start of the membership. This expiration date would also appear on the newsletter mailing label, making it possible for the member to know when his/her membership expired. Renewal notices can also be sent to the member the month prior to expiration.

Currently, the By-Laws read:

Article II: DUES

Section 1. Dues will be assessed on an annual basis and shall be prorated quarterly, to the first day of the quarter during which an application for membership is approved.

Proposed change:

Article II: DUES

Section 1. Dues will be assessed on an annual basis and membership shall be in effect for one full year from the month in which application for membership is approved.

The membership will vote on this change at the November general meeting.

YL POINT OF VIEW

Well, here it is, almost breakup again, but first, a visit from the snowflake man.

At the last tecnical meeting we had a discussion by Lil-NL7DL on propagation and Ionospheric conditions. This discussion will be continued at the next technical meeting. The technical meetings are important. This is one way we YL's (who are single or have non-ham husbands) have of boning up on some of the basic concepts of ham radio. a lot of us operate our radios by cookbook style and that's not bad, but it's not bad to understand some of the basic concepts of ham radio either! There will be elections at the November meeting, so please make it a point to be there. Bring a friend and introduce her to ham radio. Keep thinking of volunteering for Iditarod, it's good experience. We certainly had a wet several weeks with the flood waters and hams everywhere. Hams from Anchorage to the Valley were quick to organize when the water started rising in the creeks and rivers. When the flood became a reality, hams were already organized providing communications for the National Guard, Red Cross, Salvation Army and families. A lot was lost, but fortunately no lives. The floods in Seward were also devastating. I had a chance to go to Seward to assist in the flood disaster, interviewing people for damage to their homes and personal property. It was a valuable learning experience.

Many Thanks go to all the Hams who helped during the flood. Don't forget to tune your tape recorder to KL7<u>CW</u>.

73's Sharon KL7VL

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HANDIHAMS

HANDIHAM INFORMATION FOR THE HANDICAPPED, BOTH YOUNG AND OLD WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS. CALL SHARON-KL7VL AT 271-5766 WORK OR 745-4352 HOME OR LIL-NL7DL 277-6741.

HAM RADIO IN ACTION!!!!!!!!

The Mat-Su Valley and Seward disasters started on about the 9th of October when KL7JKW and KL7LA noticed that the rivers were rapidly rising. The word was spread among the Ham community in the Valley to keep everyone aware of the problem. By the 10th approximately 15 Hams were in operation. Then as the rivers overflowed and communications were getting tied up things really got going. On the afternoon 10 October WB7SFO was basically pushed into the job of net control. Then at about noon on 11 October a QST QST went out over the 34/94 machine that Hams were needed in many places. By 12 October 36 Hams were in operation in many places through the Anchorage and Mat-Su Boroughs. The prime need was in the Willow/Talkeetna areas. Hams were in operation in many places, Red Cross HQS in Anchorage, Wasilla Fire Station, Willow Community Center, Susitna Valley High School, Talkeetna Airport, Willow Airport, Wasilla Airport, operating on 2 meter, HF both fixed and mobile. One station in Fairbanks was monitoring the whole operation just standing by if needed. I know that there are many locations that were manned that I have not mentioned. Some day I know we will have a completed list of everyone involved. KL7GID of Big Lake has many tapes recording the entire communications net. Fortunately such a communications net was not needed in the Seward area although several Hams got through to Seward and were on the air if needed. See Prez Sez for comments on Seward. All in all the Ham Community did a tremendous job and they all deserve a Big Hand. Total damage came in at approximately \$28 million. Both road and rail traffic was stopped North and south from Anchorage. At the peak of disaster 74 Ham operators were being used.

73 NL7DK Editor

HELP HELP HELP !!!!!

The South Central Alaska Chapter of the American Red Cross is in need of Volunteer support. Support is needed in the areas of Disaster Response, Damage Assessment and follow-up case work. They feel that Amateur Radio Operators would be a great asset because of their training in communications and awareness of the importance of volunteer service. If any among you are interested contact the South Central Alaska Chapter of the American Red Cross. Contact either Jerome Smith-WL7BJH or Michael Curley-NL7IN at 277-1538. A minimum of 6 hours training is required.

CHANGES

NL7DE Banse, Rose and AL7FX Banse, Steve

Change street address to 16530 Mercy Dr.

KL7IOL Dennis, Richard

Change address to POB 113036, Anchorage 99511

Change home phone to 349-5963

KL7FB Hazlitt, Chris

Change address to C/O FCC 6721 W Raspberry Rd

Change phone to H:561-3268 W:243-2153

KV9D Hurd, George

Change address to 1321 W 80th Av

Change home phone to 344-5019

---- Kearney, Jon

Add address 16510 Centerfield Dr #B107, Eagle River 99577

Add home phone 694-9885

----- Lynn, John G

Change initial to E

KL7SA Maney, Rodney G

Change work phone to 753-8518

AL7AW McKinnie, Bob

Add home phone 214-442-7251

KL7GHC Newberg, Noel

Change Call Sign to K76HC

AL7GN Robison, C.D.

Change initials to Dan

Change home phone to 349-7859

KL7WM Stevens, Daniel

Change home phone to 276-6137

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RAFFLE TICKETS

DON'T FORGET THAT THE CLUB IS HAVING A FUN RAFFLE WITH THE PRIZES TO BE AWARDED AT THE DECEMBER MEETING/CHRISTMAS PARTY.
ONLY 1000 TICKETS HAVE BEEN PRINTED AND THE PRIZES ARE HAM RELATED. \$2.00 PER

1ST PRIZE - KENWOOD TS-430S 2ND PRIZE - KENWOOD TH-21

3RD PRIZE - MFJ PACKET THO

IF YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR TICKETS YET, BUY FROM SOMEONE AT THE MEETING OR CALL WA7USX- MIKE @ 522-3683 OR NL7DL @ 277-6741

NEW MEMBERS

WA7ICF Clawson, Richard 2381 E 52nd Av #9 Anchorage 99507 563-6949 NL7IN Curley, Michael POB 181485 Anchorage 99518 277-1538 NL7GF Durr, Tony SR3 Box 5874 Chugiak 99567 688-4342 KL7HPB Hoffman, Ed 4244 Kingston Dr Anchorage 99584 337-6649 337-3317 WL7BKX Hoover, Timothy S. PSC 1 Box 584 EAFB 99506 753-1892 552-4486 KL7IPU Hudson, Fred C. 6181 Gross Dr Anchorage 99507 561-8869 Lowen, Ron Box 566 288 W 34th Av Anchorage 99503 279-2278 AL7GG Lockner, Chuck POB 875745 Wasilla 99687 376-1226 376-6446 NL7JD May, Joc Box 13143 Trapper Ck 99683 Msg:733-2627 NL7JC May, San Box 13143 Trapper Ck 99683 Msg:733-2627 WA31LW McFadden, Jim 9211 Strathmore Dr Anchorage 99515 248-7237 248-6288 KL7IPN Norris, Jack POB 321 Talkeetna 99676 733-2447 KL7JPN Norris, Betty POB 321 Talkeetna 99676 733-2447 KL7JHR Ogren, Dennis K 6624 Holly Ln Anchorage 99582 243-4489 266-1649 KL7KL Ogren, Martha E 6624 Holly Ln Anchorage 99582 243-4489 KL7OA Preston, Charles M POB 211689 Anchorage 99521 271-2542	
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KL70A Preston, Charles M POB 211689 Anchorage 99521 271-2542	
KL72I Rogers, David A & Terry A POB 218527 Anchorage 99521 333-6473	
K70CL Romerdahl, Jim 2912 Princeton Wy Anchorage 99508 274-6167 274-0452	
KL7QQ Romerdahl, Donna 2912 Princeton Wy Anchorage 99508 274-6167	
WL7BJH Smith, Jerome J 3988 Apollo Dr Anchorage 99584 337-4686 277-1538	
WL7BLD Smith, Genevieve 3988 Apollo Dr Anchorage 99584 337-4686	
KABLUE Speckhart, Scott A PSC 2 Box 3201 EAFB 99586-5368 753-8868 552-3106	
N4ERF Spivey, Joel W 618 Highview Dr Anchorage 99515 345-8185	
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KL7HN Trotter, L. R. 4929 Castle Ct Anchorage 99588 338-8882 265-8585	
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The Way of A Newsletter

The normal Newsletter is made up of twelve pages. If needed more are added. It is sent to the Printers eleven (11) days before the Club Meeting. It is (hopefully) in the mail Monday of the Meeting week. It is sent via Bulk Mail to keep the cost down. Most members seem to get their copy on Wednesday or Thursday before the meeting.

NL7DK-Editor.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE HAMS OR NON-HAMS THAT ARE LISTED BELOW FOR ALL OF THEIR HELP IN EVERY PHASE OF THE HAMFEST/FLEA MARKET. WITHOUT YOU WE COULD NOT HAVE HAD THE SUCESSFUL EVENT THAT WE DID. IF I HAVE LEFT ANYONE OUT, I APOLIGIZE. 30 LASHES WITH A WET NOODLE FOR ME. ONCE AGAIN A BIG THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO PITCHED IN AND HELPED. I AM VERY GRATEFUL!!

LIL NL7DL

NL7DL KL7IAF	KL7YF NL7HK	KL7L0 KL7AP	KL7HM KL7IBZ	AL788 AL7FJ	KL7HFM KL7MQ & [KL7ITI DAUGHTER	NL7DM
KL7IWC	KL7GM	AL7EB	WAZUSX &	KATHY	AL7GN	AL7ID	KL7IZZ
AL7FI	AL7EB	KL7NR	WL7Y	NL7BJ	WL78JB	WL78JS	NL7DE
ML7DK	KL7H0	KL7ANV	KL7CQ	KL7NR	NL7DK	NL7DL	KL7EQX
AL7ID	WL7BJB	WL7AME	KL7GM	NL7HF	KL7DU	KL7PG	KL7GU
KL7JGU	KL7JIM	NL7HQ	KL7SA	NL7C	W7QGP	WB5DNT	AL7FI
HL7DL	KL7YF	KL7WM	KL7MJ	HL7JE	KL7GM	KL7PG	KL7IWC
W4IGM	WB5MYU	AL7BK	NL7DK	KL7VC	KL7IMD	NL7AV	AL7GS
NL7EV	WL7BER	SUSAN WOL	ODS (NO CA	LL)	KL7L0	NL7DK	KL7HFQ
HL7DL	NL7DK	AL7ID	KL7L0	HL7GE	AL7BK	KV9D	AL7FI
NL7DK	KL7YF	NL7DL JO	DHN LYNN	PAULINE			

FOR THOSE WHO THINK THAT THE EDITOR WENT NUTS AND LISTED EVERYONE SEVERAL TIMES!! IF YOU ARE LISTED MANY TIMES IT JUST SHOWS HOW MANY PLACES YOU HELP' OUT! THANKS AGAIN!!!

Rules Applying to XE2 Ham Operations

At the present time there are many U.S Amateurs operating in Mexican Waters. The question is: When you receive an XE2 license from the Mexican Government can you operate your radio above your U.S. License? This is creating many problems throughout the Ham community afloat. Evidently the way the XE2 license is worded is leaving many questions. Some Nets will not handle traffic from Novice/Technicians using the XE2 license to operate above their U.S. license. Others feel the XE2 license gives the privileges of operating throughout the bands. It has even gotten to the on-the-air "name calling stage." The suggestion is made that anyone who is planning on operating in Mexican waters would be wise to contact Mr. Hal Grigsby Engineer-in-Charge of the FCC"s San Diego (California) office to obtain the latest information re: Operating in XE2 land. 'The above information is taken from the W5YI Report'

HamNet Packet Tutorial Part Three Continued

. Many of the parameters which can be altered in Command mode are saved in the NOVRAM chip mentioned earlier in this series. This chip is an electrically erasable read-only memory - and permits me, for example, to save away my call-sign (which becomes my address in the AX.25 protocol) so that I need not reset it every time I power up. The NOVRAM really helps make the TNC startup procedure extremely simple - since most all of the parameters I have tailored have been tucked away into the NOVRAM.

In addition to the NOVRAM, the ROM contains a set of default operating parameters which can be invoked to completely reset the NOVRAM values. This is helpful after experimenting with a number of parameters — and deciding to start over from the ground up!

. To give an example of how simple it is to get the TNC "on-the-air", the following sequence of commands will take the TNC from power-up to Converse mode:

MYCALL W3VS - Sets my callsign into the address field.
(Only necessary once!)

PERM - Save my callsign into the NOVRAM.

CONVERS - Enter Converse Mode.

Hello Test - Sends an unaddressed packet with the text "Hello Test".

Ctrl-C - Returns to command mode.

CONNECT K8MMO - Requests that I be connected to K8MMO.
Automatically enters Converse mode if
K8MMO acknowledges my CONNECT request.

Hello Dave - Sends an addressed packet to K8MMO with the text "Hello Dave".

Ctrl-C - Returns to command mode.

DISCONNECT - Disconnect from K8MMO.

. As you can see, operating the TNC is really a breeze. In fact, from power-up to being on the air is typically a matter of a few seconds.

several which determine how the TNC responds to what it hears on the radio link. For example, I can tell the TNC to monitor all packets it hears — including those not specifically addressed to me. This is obviously useful for "reading the mail" on the channel! In fact, I can tell it to monitor all activity, or just activity either TO or FROM a specific station. In addition, I can tell the TNC whether I want it to become a digipeater — a digital repeater which repeats what packets addressed to another station but containing my callsign as a repeater address. (It's interesting to note that the default is digipeat on — it's so automatic that I really don't know (other than by hearing my radio got on and off) that I'm being used as a digipeater!

HamNet Packet Tutorial Part Three Continued

I can also define the specific operating parameters for the link. Items such as the length of a packet (default of 128 bytes), whether it should send a packet when it sees a specific character (default is carriage return) or send a packet after so many seconds of inactivity from my terminal. I can also cause the TNC to automatically send a beacon every so many seconds or send it after so many seconds of no activity on the packet channel.

I've just shown a few of the features available in Command mode on the TAPR TNC. The software is extremely well done - and using the TNC is a pleasure! You immediately sense that this box was put together by folks who really understand both the hardware and the software aspects of microcomputing and communications!

Let's talk now about Converse mode. As shown in my example, I can cause the TNC to enter Converse mode by entering the CONVERS command and also by connecting with another station. The TNC will also automatically enter Converse mode whenever another station requests a connect with me! In this case, it prints out a message saying:

Connected to K8MMO

.and enters Converse mode. From that point on, whatever I type is sent to the other station.

If I'm not connected to another station but enter Converse mode using the CONVERS command, my packets will be "unaddressed" and only can be copied by other stations which are monitoring all packets on the channel. This is the technique used to say "CQ" on a packet channel. For example, on my TRS-80 Model 100, I have created a CQ file which I transmit containing my name, address, callsign, station equipment, phase of the moon, etc.! To say CQ, I simply send this packet. If others are around, typically one will connect with me and our QSO has begun!

Earlier, I mentioned the digipeating mode. I can cause my packets to automatically be sent via a repeater. I simply say:

CONNECT K8MMO VIA WB4JFI-1

.WB4JFI-1 is a local AMRAD repeater run by Terry Fox which is available 24 hours per day. In this case, my station sends its packets to WB4JFI-1 which verifies that they are valid packets (i.e. frame check sequence is valid) and then retransmits them to K8MMO. Neat!

HamNet Packet Tutorial Part Three Continued

- Let's now talk about Transparent mode. Transparent mode allows you to effectively turn the TNC into a modem i.e. it will not locally echo characters, will ignore command/control character sequences, etc. The advantage of this mode is in transferring files which might contain any of those characters. In Transparent mode, it's possible to transmit a binary file to another station. With the built-in error detection and correction of the AX.25 protocol, error-free transmission is guaranteed! It's possible to exit from Transparent mode to Command mode by sending a very specific sequence of characters (default is three control-C's sent with no other data for one second before and after). Obviously, the odds of this sequence occuring in normal transmission is very, very low which is just what's wanted in Transparent mode.
- Another use of transparent mode is in running a computer system at the other guy's station. For example, I have run the CP/M system at K1HTV in this manner and run BASIC programs, CP/M commands such as DIR to get a file directory listing, etc. It's just like sitting at the console of that other system with the addition of a time delay required for transmission of the packets at 1200 baud!
- . Well, we've pretty well covered the operational aspects of the TAPR TNC. As you've seen, it's an extremely versatile device and provides nearly all of the functions you'd want!
- You are probably a bit curious (I know I was) about the software package used in the TAPR TNC. This excellent package was written in a combination of Pascal and 6809 assembler by Harold Price NK6K, Dave Henderson KD4NL, and Margaret Morrison KV7D. The bulk of the code was written in Pascal while assembler was used for the interrupt handling and data buffering routines. The Pascal code effectively relies on the assembler code as device drivers for the hardware interfaces present on the TNC. The combined package is over 20K of code stored in the ROM of the TNC.
- . This concludes this section of the packet radio tutorial.

 Next, we'll describe some of the activites underway in the Washington,

 DC area with packet radio and some of our plans for the future.

Many Thanks to KIZAT for sending us this HamNet Packet Tutorial Information!! Sorry it took so long to get it all in. (Editor)

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